

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A hearing aid case comprising:

a compartment to receive at least one hearing aid;

a transducer to detect and convert oscillations in the compartment into electrical signals;

a logic circuit coupled to the transducer;

a first visual cue that is activated by the logic circuit if the logic circuit determines that the electrical signals produced by the transducer are indicative that the hearing aid is oscillating; and

a second visual cue that is activated by the logic circuit if the logic circuit determines that the electrical signals produced by the transducer are not indicative that the hearing aid is oscillating.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The hearing aid case as in claim 4, wherein the logic circuit further comprises:

a reference signal or level source adapted to produce a reference signal; and

a comparator having a first input coupled to the transducer and a second input coupled to the reference signal source, wherein the comparator is adapted to produce a first output if a difference between the electrical signals and the reference signal is indicative that the hearing aid is oscillating and a second output if the difference between the electrical signals and the reference signal is not indicative that the hearing aid is oscillating.

7. (Original) The hearing aid case as in claim 4, further comprising:

a storage case base; and

a lid pivotally attached to the storage case base, the storage case base and lid forming the compartment when the lid is in a closed position.

8. (Original) The hearing aid case as in claim 7, further comprising:

a switch mechanism which permits power to be transmitted to the logic circuit when the lid is placed in an open position.

9. (Original) The hearing aid case as in claim 8, wherein the switch mechanism permits power to be transmitted to the logic circuit for a period of time after the lid is placed in a closed position.

10. (Original) The hearing aid case as in claim 7, further comprising:

a switch mechanism which permits power to be transmitted to the logic circuit when the lid is in a closed position.

11. (Original) The hearing aid case as in claim 4, wherein the logic circuit further comprises:

an amplifying circuit to amplify the electrical signals produced by the transducer.

12. (Previously Presented) A hearing aid case comprising:

a compartment to receive at least one hearing aid;

a transducer to detect and convert oscillations in the compartment into electrical signals;

a logic circuit coupled to the transducer;

a first visual cue that is activated by the logic circuit if the logic circuit determines that the electrical signals produced by the transducer are above a predetermined threshold level;
and

a second visual cue that is activated by the logic circuit if the logic circuit determines that the electrical signals produced by the transducer are below the predetermined threshold level.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The hearing aid as in claim 12, wherein the predetermined threshold level represents signals other than an oscillation of a hearing aid.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) A method for detecting oscillation of a hearing aid in a storage case, the method comprising:

providing a compartment in the storage case;

placing at least one hearing aid in a compartment;

using a transducer to convert oscillations in the compartment into electrical signals;

using a logic circuit to determine if the electrical signals are indicative of the hearing aid that is oscillating;

activating a first visual cue if the logic circuit determines that the electrical signals are indicative of the hearing aid that is oscillating; and

activating a second visual cue if the logic circuit determines that the electrical signals are not indicative that the hearing aid is oscillating.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 16, further comprising:
the logic circuit comparing the electrical signals with a reference signal to determine if the hearing aid is oscillating.

19. (Original) The method as in claim 16, further comprising:
powering the logic circuit for a predetermined period of time after the hearing aid is placed in the compartment.

20-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) A hearing aid storage case that indicates whether the hearing aid has been properly turned off for storage, comprising:

a compartment to receive at least one hearing aid, a storage case base and a lid pivotally attached to the storage case base forming the compartment when the lid is in a closed position;

a transducer to detect and convert oscillations in the compartment into electrical signals;

a logic circuit coupled to the transducer;

a first visual cue that is activated by the logic circuit; and

a switch mechanism that permits power to be transmitted to the logic circuit when the lid is placed in an open position, wherein the switch mechanism permits power to be transmitted to the logic circuit for only a period of time after the lid is placed in a closed position, the time period being sufficient to enable the logic circuit to determine whether the electrical signals produced by the transducer are indicative that the hearing aid is oscillating and activating the first visual cue to signify whether the hearing aid has been properly turned off or left on.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting whether a hearing aid in a storage case has been properly turned off, the method comprising:

providing a compartment in the storage case;

placing at least one hearing aid in the compartment;

using a transducer to convert oscillations in the compartment into electrical signals;

using a logic circuit to determine if the electrical signals are indicative of the hearing aid oscillating or being turned off, the logic circuit comparing the electric signals with a

reference signal to determine if the electric signals are indicative of the hearing aid being turned off; and

activating a first visual cue indicative of whether the hearing aid has been properly turned off,

wherein the method further comprises turning on the hearing aid prior to placing the hearing aid in the compartment;

monitoring a noise generated by the turned on hearing aid; and

storing the noise of the hearing aid in a memory as the reference signal.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)